



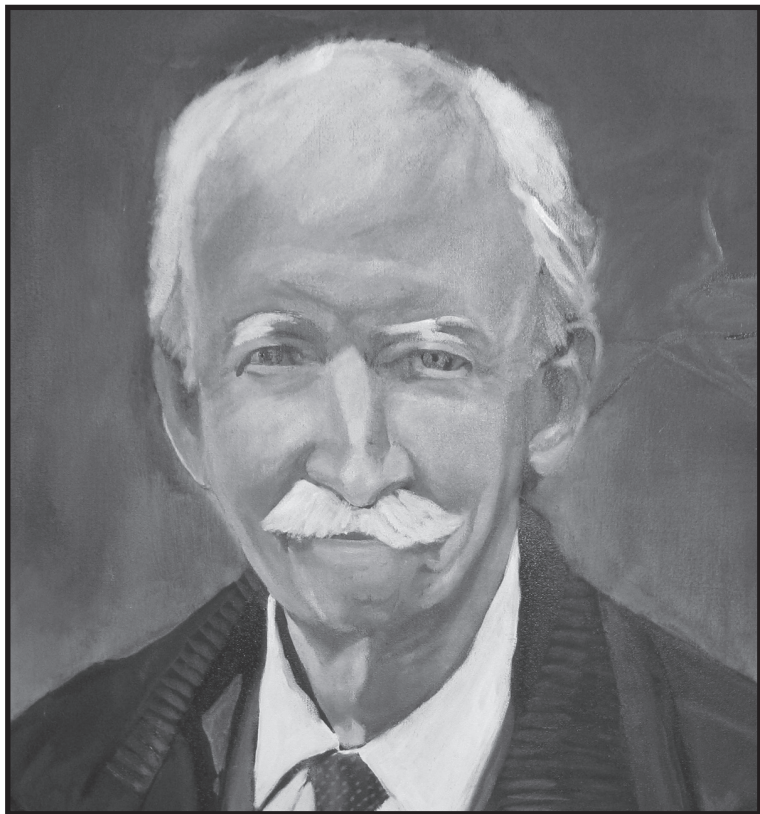
Shawnigan Focus

Volume Ten - Issue Seven

July 2019

A Non-Profit Community Publication

SHAWNIGAN LAKE MUSEUM FUNDRAISER



Lori Treloar
Shawnigan Lake Museum

Please join us for an art filled fundraiser for the Shawnigan Lake Museum - A Night at the Lake with E.J. Hughes and Friends This art and appie event will take place in the spectacular Read Crewhouse, Shawnigan Lake School on July 13th from 7-10. E.J. Hughes was not only discovered when he lived in Shawnigan Lake, he also did the bulk of his career work while he lived here. As a result, the Shawnigan Lake Museum has a gallery dedicated to Hughes within the museum.

At the fundraiser Robert Amos, artist, and author of E.J. Hughes Paints Vancouver Island will talk about Hughes and his relationship with Shawnigan Lake. Patricia Martin Bates, artist, will talk about her friendship with Hughes.

In addition, an impressive list of artists will have art pieces for sale (set price) including Shawnigan paintings by Robert Amos; paintings by David Goatley; a carving by Richard Shaw; paintings by Kristine Paton and paintings by Judy Cadorette. Art sold that night will result in a commission for the museum.

Tickets include one drink, light refreshments and some surprises. \$100 each.

Tickets are limited.

It will be a great opportunity to don your glad rags and have a wonderful night out in our own community...you won't want to miss this!

More info: www.shawniganlakemuseum.com or email: shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca

In Memory of Pat Salmon

Blaise Salmon

Longtime Shawnigan resident Pat Salmon passed away in June at the age of 82.

Mom was well known as the matriarch of a large family, including seven children, 29 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren, many of whom live in the Shawnigan Mill Bay area.

Mom was also well known in the art world as the long-time friend and assistant to the artist EJ Hughes, who lived and painted at Shawnigan for many years. She wrote a number of articles about Hughes' work, and was a major donor to the EJ Hughes permanent exhibit at the Shawnigan Museum.

Mom was also a poet and

short story writer, a member of the local Cedar Creek Writers group and a contributor to the annual "Verse and Vision" event in Duncan. One of her dreams was to have more of her poems published.

In memory of mom, here is her poem "*The Cowichan River in July*", a tribute to the EJ Hughes painting by the same name.



Painting by EJ Hughes

THE COWICHAN RIVER IN JULY

Our river, at its bluest in July
Mountain green and shell white shore winds by
Then shaded some by ample Maple tree
Moves proudly through the Warm Land to the sea
Take a period of Picasso
A Gershwin rhapsody
A moody, broody song from Basin Street
Take Royal Blood or sapphire in the Crown
Or berries in the pie we gobble down
Take, if you will, the boldest Stellar Jay
Or Grotto on Capri, so far away
Take fluids by Mrs. Stuart or Waterman
Or all the soaring shares of I.B.M.
Well, none of these, not one of these, dare try
Outblue the Cowichan River in July

-Pat Salmon

Shawnigan Focus

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SEND US LETTERS... EDITOR@SHAWNIGANFOCUS.CA

The Focus will publish your thoughts on Shawnigan issues: bouquets you would like to offer to special people; things that strike you as funny; challenges you want our civic leaders to consider; and/or ideas that would better our community. Letters to the Editor must be accompanied by the author's full name, address and phone number, but the contact information, other than the name, will not be published. Letters should be limited to 300 words and we reserve the right to edit for brevity or to refuse inappropriate or abusive language. Letters should attack issues - not individuals or groups.

Dear Editor,

RE: Diane & Darell Mellott's Repsonse to Tom Buss' Rail Trail Point of View:

I am concerned that people are misinformed or unsure of what the CVRD has proposed.

Those opposed to the CVRD's Rail Trail are not in opposition of trails connecting our neighbourhood but, rather, opposed to the removal of established and protected vegetation to create a trail next to an existing trail that has potential to serve the exact same purpose.

The Mellott's complain that if one chooses to walk along the existing railway, they are "forced to navigate" along a "treacherous" path and only "able-bodied folks can negotiate it". Be aware that the Island Corridor Foundation property is in fact 'private' property & no one is forced to use it; people trespass at their own discretion.

The Mellott's claim that the residents along this stretch have "laid claim" to the ICF property. Aside from a few boardwalks to cross the ditch & gain access to their lakefront properties, and perhaps some fenceposts to protect their families from a previously active railway, there is no evidence to suggest that any of these homeowners have "laid claim" to the ICF property.

The Mellott's bold comment that folks living along that stretch of land "don't need to use 'rail trail' be-

cause they "already have their own 'private' beach" is unfair and illogical. The Rail Trail will not give the public access to new beachfront property but, rather, facilitate access to existing public beachfront areas. Lakefront owner's rights to use infrastructure to support the community, patronize local business, and utilize resources, is no less important than those who do not live on the lake.

I recommend that all concerned residents of Shawnigan Lake do some research into the proposed CVRD's Rail Trail project and gain some perspective into why some residents may be opposed to it.

~M. Storkey

Dear Editor,

Clarification of points raised in Mellot's letter (June):

1. "Shawnigan Lake is decidedly lacking in parks." Inaccurate, a CVRD annual report shows Shawnigan Lake has 49 parks, more than all other CVRD areas, the next is Mill Bay with 33. Four of our parks are specifically located in the village.
2. 'Photo showing the few plucky folks.' The photograph was taken on a Monday at 5pm. The beach at Wharf Park is the only one that families can access with small kids and gear without crossing a busy road, or walking a significant

distance. Now there is no space for families at the park. When surveyed for the Master Plan, our community voted swimming as #1 and cycling as #10 for Wharf Park. How does this fit with the newly built trail?

3. "Environmental impact studies." The Environmental Management Plan prepared for the phase of trail recently completed failed to recognize the presence of a blue-listed species, the Great Blue Heron. There are only 200-300 left on Vancouver Island. The report completely missed the birds. The CVRD did not catch this omission even though the herons are well documented in our Official Community Plan (OCP). It appears the construction went ahead with no mitigation plan for a vulnerable species. A 600+ signature petition, which mentioned the herons, was gathered by our community and was ignored. The CVRD placed more value on the 277 submissions to PlaceSpeak.

Our OCP, Bylaw #3605, states no development should occur in the riparian area. This is where

the CVRD wants to bring excavators and dump trucks and build a trail at the shoreline. Why are we taxpayers expected to abide by the Bylaws but the CVRD can completely disregard their own rules?

It's a shame the CVRD destroyed our railway station without public consultation. The CVRD diagram shows the trail beside the railway station, not running right over it. It would have been the perfect place for an area map and local business signage to encourage visitors to take advantage of our many services.

~Kathryn Temple

Dear Editor,

Re: Thoughts on the Rail Trail, Mellot's, June Focus, 2019

In the Mellott's letter, they mention that there are "very few access points to the lake". There are over 70 "Road Ends" that provide access, plus a large Provincial Government Park on the west side of the lake. Masons Beach, the Public Dock (CVRD) and Old Mill Park are connected by the E&N Railway and included in the proposed rail trail. Most of the 14 adjacent property owners who "have basically laid claim to the 100 ft. wide rail corridor" between their homes and their privately owned, highly taxed, water-

front properties are NOT against the "RIGHT" trail from the Public Dock to Old Mill Park.

The proposed trail necessitates two fences in some areas, as it's being squeezed in: the railway's "safety fence", plus a "safety fence" to prevent people falling on the lake side. There have been no offers from the CVRD to put gates in for those who have private property on the water side of this trail. Really?? INCLUSIVE??? Nor will they listen to property owners' ideas that could eliminate the need for a second fence and work for ALL taxpayers. There won't be easy access for anyone if the train runs again, it WILL be fenced*. The access points will be limited, and there's very little parking at these locations.

* A recent promise from Larry Stevenson, CEO, ICF, owners of the sadly neglected E&N railbed.

There are thousands of people on our island who feel that the best use of the E&N corridor is for an inclusive trail, connecting all major towns on the south half of the island. See www.fortvi.ca.

The B C Government is currently studying the viability of reviving the E&N railway. It would be prudent for the CVRD to wait for the completion of it, before building an expensive, environmentally unfriendly trail beside the old rail.

~Ian Andersen

South Cowichan Library

Summer Reading Club starts on July 2!

Self-directed activities are available every day with weekly changes between KEVA planks, magnets, art, puppets, LEGO, or Straws & Connectors.

KEVA Challenge:

Saturday, July 6, 1-2pm
Get ready. Receive your challenge. Start building with KEVA planks!

Exploring Magnetics:

Saturday, July 13, 1-2pm
Come try out magnet wands, iron filings, Mag-former tiles, and a discovery board. Will it attract?

The Library Club with the Story Theatre Company from Victoria: Monday, July 15, 2-3pm
Fantastic creatures roam the hallways and library books go missing.

Meet The Library Club:

three eager students who spend their weekends repairing books, tracking down overdue ones, and returning them to the shelves.

When fantastic creatures begin to roam the school and books start to go missing, the Club steps up to solve the mystery. Luckily, their time spent helping out the School Librarian has taught them some awesome junior detective skills.

As they encounter characters who have escaped their stories and are causing havoc in the hallways, they also solve riddles and problems to save the Library.

Because when you know the Dewey Decimal system and of course have a library card... nothing is impossible!

The Gruffalo

Puppet Show: Wednesday, July 24, 2-3pm

Come watch Library Mouse stroll through the deep dark wood and discover what happens when Mouse comes face to face with a fox, owl, snake, and a terrible creature named Gruffalo. Then join in a scavenger hunt for the characters of this classic tale. Bring all the family! Free.

Engineering Challenge:

Wednesday, July 31, 2-3pm
Pick a challenge card and, using Straws and Connectors, start building! You might build a tower that reaches toward the ceiling, a circular rocket ship, a ball as wide as your arm, or a tent, or a cave, or a pyramid...

Keep up to date with the library at our Facebook page: VI Regional Library South Cowichan



VILLAGE CHIPPERY

July Specials

Feature Poutine
TACO-tine! **\$12⁹⁹**
Seasoned Ground Beef,
Bell Peppers, Onions, Tomato

Just for the Halibut!
your choice . . . \$14⁹⁹
Deep Fried Halibut Burger & Fries
or Grilled Halibut Teriyaki Rice Bowl



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Safety first for summer fun

Oriana Parker
SCCP

Summer has arrived and with it a migration of people to the Cowichan Valley to enjoy the amenities and attractions offered to them. Unfortunately the down side is an increase in criminal activity. RCMP Sergeant, Tim Desaulniers, would like to outline a few safety precautions so that you and your family may enjoy a happy and healthy summer break.

Pedestrians

Do not assume you have the right of way! Try to make eye contact with drivers before crossing the road. While walking, do not become distracted by looking at, or texting, on your mobile phone. Avoid headphones. Stay alert until you have safely reached the other side. At night wear brightly coloured cloth-

ing and, or, a reflective arm/leg band. In rural areas with no street lights, carry a flashlight. Be very cautious around parked vehicles. Never dart out onto the road as drivers may not be able to see you and not have the time to slow down to avoid an accident.

Drivers

Slow down, during summer break as there are more children and other traffic on our roads. Be aware of a higher concentration of children, pets and cyclists on our sidewalks and roads. Give them a wide berth. In general, expect the unexpected, especially around neighbourhoods, swimming areas, parks, pools, anywhere people gather.

Preventing Break-Ins - Home

Close all windows on ground level when not in the room.

Secure patio sliding doors by fitting a snap resistant cylinder lock. Lock sheds with a padlock. Close your drapes at night. Do not leave valuables where they can be seen through the windows. Join your neighbourhood Block Watch which is an effective tool designed to deter criminals.

Preventing Break-Ins - Vehicles

Completely close your vehicle windows, including sunroofs when not in the car. Never leave your vehicle unlocked. Activate the alarm system. Park in a well lit spot away from bushes and overhanging trees. Never leave valuables, including spare change, CD's where they can be seen. Keep all valuables in the trunk. Report suspicious persons and occurrences to the RCMP – Shawnigan Lake RCMP 250-743-5514

Boating

Recreational lake users should be aware of these major complaints from residents on Shawnigan Lake;

Disregard for, or lack of knowledge of the Boating Laws, Rules and Regulations as posted by CVRD:

- ★ Reckless boating, and paddleboarding, including not wearing, or having, life jackets.
- ★ Alcohol use by those driving boats.
- ★ Noise from boats, including noisy engines.
- ★ Loud music coming from cottages.
- ★ Boats coming in too close to shore and endangering swimmers, fishermen and other lake users.

Fire Smart

We are adopting a no tolerance attitude towards the improper disposal of smoking material. Tossing a cigarette from a vehicle comes with a huge fine under the Wild Fire Act and officers will be enforcing it. Fines will be levied for improper handling of burning substances and illegal use of open fires. To ensure that you are doing all you can to keep your property safe from wildfires obtain a free copy of The Home Owners Fire Smart Manual. It is absolutely free and it is filled with valuable information for all property owners. You may get a copy from your local fire station or from SCCP office in Mill Bay. It is your responsibility to know the current Fire Ban and Restrictions. *Report any fire to BC Wildfire Service at 1-800-663-5555 or *5555 on a cell phone.*

Shawnigan Stargazer

Colin Frostad
Shawnigan Focus

July: 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11 and the Space Race

It was 50 years ago, July 20th at 7:51pm Pacific Time, when Neil Armstrong placed his foot on the powdery lunar surface of the Moon; the climax of arguably the most impressive eight years in engineering development in human history.

In May of 1961, JFK proclaimed to the US Congress that the US would land a man on the moon and return them safely back to Earth. The Apollo Program was preceded by two other groups of missions that built up the knowledge base to achieve the Apollo Moon landings, the Mercury and Gemini Programs.

The main goal of the Mercury Program was to get a single astronaut into Earth orbit and returned safely home. Yuri Gagarin of the Soviet Union was the first human in space, achieving this in April 1961, a month before Kennedy's speech, and a driver for his

highly ambitious goal. Alan Shepard achieved the first sub-orbital flight for an American, one month after Gagarin, and John Glenn achieved three Earth orbits on February 20th 1962, again trailing the Soviets who obtained orbital flights in August of 1961. The rocket used to launch Glenn was the Atlas.

NASA recognized that at least two vehicles would be required to land on the moon - a Command Module which would orbit around the moon, and a Lunar Module that would descend to the Lunar Surface.

The Gemini Program's goal was to perfect the docking of these two craft while orbiting the Earth. It was called Gemini because now instead of a single astronaut being launched in space the Gemini flights carried two astronauts into orbit. The larger Titan rocket was used to deliver the heavier payloads.

The culmination of NASA's ambitious space goals was the Apollo Program, set out with a clear goal: land a human on the Moon and return them safely back to Earth. The learnings

of rocket development, effects on the human body in space, zero gravity vehicular docking achieved in the Mercury, Gemini and early Apollo programs lead to July 16th, 1969. Three men, Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins were atop the behemoth Saturn V rocket, launched at 6:32am Pacific Time, and orbited the

Earth 1.5 times at which point they did another engine burn to fire them toward the moon. Shortly after this burn, the Command Module and the Lunar Module were docked together leaving all the spent rocket stages behind. It took 3 days for Apollo 11 to reach the moon, and on July 19th they orbited the moon 30 times, spotting the landing site Tranquility Base. With Collins above, in lunar orbit in the Command

Module, Armstrong and Aldrin used the Lunar Module (named the Eagle) to softly touch down on the Moon's surface in the evening of July 20th.

This month, no star charts are required. Simply look up at the moon, and consider how amazing it is that, half a century ago, humans were able to figure out how to get three humans up there, walk on the surface of another celestial body, and get back safely with the computing

THE CLAY HUB COLLECTIVE

Pottery for Everyone!



We offer a wide variety of pottery workshops and classes for ages 5+. Find out more at:

www.theclayhubcollective.com

Thank you to Janet Neilsen for representing the Shawnigan Focus in the Canada Day Parade. Many thanks also to Jim Entzminger for providing candy over the last several years for Janet to give out.

Celebration of Summer



A RARE Opportunity to Visit Shawnigan Lake School

- Meet the master gardener
- Organ concert by Tristan Rhodes
- Tour the beautiful grounds
- Afternoon Tea
- Visit the Museum

Wednesday July 31, 2019

Grounds open; 1pm, Concert; 2pm, Afternoon Tea follows

\$35.00 per person

Tickets available at Shawnigan Lake School main office (cash or chq) 250.743.5516

All proceeds to benefit the Anglican Parish of St. Mary Nanoose Bay

Walk Talk

Robin Massey
Shawnigan Focus

Sooke Wilderness Regional Park/Trail is part of the Great Trail, which is one of the longest trails in the world and connects the backwoods of Victoria to Cowichan to Nanaimo.

This section begins at Humpback Reservoir and travels 13km through expansive wild woodlands to Goldstream Heights, then if you want to continue your adventure through the Shawnigan Lake area and beyond – you can.

Sounds fun right? While researching this hike you may

notice multiple warnings and cautionary tales that indicate it is NOT by any means for all abilities and levels. Reason being is the large number of steep inclines and declines providing many moments of being humbled by your fitness level.

The trail is nicely groomed and maintained but can be a quiet trek for the hiker bee. On what was thought to be a busy Saturday, there was no notable traffic detected other than the periodic cyclist. And wow those cyclists – it was impressive watching them fly up the hills in a breeze as I stumbled along merely focusing on one foot in front of the other.



Sooke Wilderness Park is the region’s largest park measuring at about 10,100 acres and that abundant size allows for so many beautiful things to see including abundant fir/cedar/arbutus trees, foliage and fauna, the view at Waugh Creek Falls from a constructed platform, and stepping across the suspension bridge over the Goldstream River.

Thirteen kilometres can be a long way while sipping water and I am happy to report that, about half way, Wolf Hill is a facility for your use. Duly note however, that local bears have not caught on and instead utilize the trail. This is a reminder that when you think you’re alone out there, you

really are not.

Because of this isolation, sparse traffic intervals and the wildlife, I chose to play my most catchy 80’s music via external speaker and apparently the animals didn’t agree with my jam and stayed clear.

The 80’s may not be your thing, but consider making noise out there, making your presence known.

At about 1.5 km in from Humpback, is a 41 metre suspension bridge hovering above the Goldstream River. It is a pretty neat sight to see and, if you’re not quite ready to get out there

to see it real life, there is a little time-lapse video you can watch of its construction (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ze5FTvNCGbU&feature=youtu.be>)

Upon reaching the top of what feels like the longest incline ever, is a map board showing that you are entering Goldstream Heights. After a few decent declines you eventually reach what I fondly call the ‘slingshot’ featuring a deep decline, followed immediately by a steep incline, onto Trail Way thus completing a one way, 13km trek to certainly be proud of!

Check out the photos from this hike and more *The Om Tree* page on Facebook.



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HEALTHY BEGINNINGS

A Free Drop-In at the
Shawnigan Lake Community Centre



Healthy Beginnings is a friendly, relaxed group for moms and dads with babies and toddlers from birth to 3 years of age.

No registration is required, just drop-in to visit and share a cup of coffee or a snack.

We will be discussing a wide range of topics.

It all begins at 10:30 AM

Every Thursday except the weeks with a statutory holiday.

INFORMATION : Rhoda - 250 709 3050
EMAIL : rhoda.taylor@viha.ca
FACEBOOK : **Healthy Beginnings Cowichan**

Book Review

Marcy Green
Shawnigan Focus

The One
John Marrs
*Published by Hanover Square Press
Copyright 2017 by John Marrs*
“A simple DNA test is all it takes. Just a quick mouth swab and soon you’ll be matched with your perfect partner - the one you’re genetically made for.”

What a great idea for a book. Ten people receive the message that they have been matched with their scientifically picked Soul Mate, their One True Love. In this world of Ancestry.com it doesn’t seem too far-fetched, and this book takes us into the future with a premise that provides five wildly different stories. What could possibly go wrong?

As the individuals find out about their perfect partners, complications arise. What happens to a couple, already in love, when one of them wants to check to see if they are, indeed,

a match? Can there be some gender confusion? How about age differences? Will one’s Match still be alive, be of the same generation, or the same class? Is there room for treachery or danger? Chaos, heartbreak and true love follow as we dive into each couples’ story, all written from different points of view.

To further complicate things, there is a serial killer as one of the matches. He is a psychopath, determined to fill a quota of murdering thirty women before he settles down with his beloved who, he believes, can redeem him. Her profession adds a surprising twist.

What makes the plot so thrilling (besides the serial killer) is the well-fleshed out characters. In a short space of time we come to care for most of the people and move quickly from cliff hanger to cliff hanger. We find ourselves rooting for some, yet worried about the safety of others.

The chapters become shorter and shorter as the tension of

each of the five stories ratchets up. Emotional drama and ethical dilemmas serve to provide us with an excuse to stay up late, devouring the pages.

Be forewarned that the tone is quite dark in places and some scenes are definitely gory. As well, the twists and turns might be confusing to a few, but this combination of thriller, science fiction and love story will grab your imagination.

And, if you really want to stir things up, ask yourself this: what would you do if you discovered that out there in the wider world there was the perfect partner for you, someone you would feel an immediate and permanent affinity with? Given your current situation, would you want to find The One? Or do you think you have already done so?

Recommended for mystery readers and those who like a book that keeps them on edge.

Rating: 5/5 stars



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only prime + ½% vs. prime +1% at your bank.

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Mortgage Specialist
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emily.black@rbc.com

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* We will pay the basic title insurance fee (not including migration fee), appraisals/property valuation fee and one discharge/switch out fee at another financial institution (up to \$300 maximum). Offer excludes mortgage prepayment charges that you may have to pay. Minimum advance \$50,000. *Savings based on \$100,000 secured line of credit with interest being paid over 10 years comparing a 3.5% annual interest rate to a 4.0% annual interest rate. The interest rate will fluctuate with the Prime rate and is subject to change at any time without notice. Rate is effective as of September 20, 2011. Personal lending products and residential mortgages are provided by Royal Bank of Canada and are subject to its standard lending criteria. © / ™ Trademark(s) of Royal Bank of Canada. RBC and Royal Bank are registered trademarks of Royal Bank of Canada. 39106 (09/2011)

Shawnigan Weather May 2019

Stats courtesy of UVic Weather Network - Reported by Grant Treloar

	May Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018
Average High	17.2	21.8	22.5	20.5	21.8	21.0	21.6	20.4	20.9
Average Low	7.0	8.8	9.3	9.2	10.0	9.8	10.4	8.9	9.3
Extreme High	33.9	30.2	31.1	28.0	31.1	27.9	30.3	27.0	29.5
Extreme Low	-3.9	3.7	5.8	5.9	5.9	6.2	7.3	5.0	6.0
Precipitation	50.6	29.5	17.2	25.6	17.5	20.4	11.4	23.7	14.2
Days w precip	14	6	5	6	4	6	4	6	3
Year Precip	591.7	436.1	567.1	398.7	550.3	371.2	506.6	431.4	589.6

Rank since 1914: 3rd warmest, 37th driest

Lake Temperature: May 5th: 13° May 12th: 18° May 19th: 17° May 26th: 17°

Lake Level Change: May 5th: -6cm May 12th: -4cm May 19th: -2.5cm May 26th: -1 cm

Surface Elevation: 116.47m 116.44m 116.41m 116.40m

May's wamest day was the 27th. The coolest day was on the 1st. Wettest day was the 20th when 10.7 mm of rain fell. This year is running well below normal for precipitation.

4 | SHAWNIGAN FOCUS

Director's Report, Area B Director

Sierra Acton
Area Director,

Love it!

We have a lot to enjoy in this community all year round. It feels like we have even more to enjoy in the summer with our parks, trails, beaches and festivals. We have 3 beaches and an Island. Did you know Memory Island is BC's smallest provincial park? If you love to brag about our area as much as I do and you take great photos send them to a michelle@cowichantourism.com she will

feature them online and when you're posting to social media use #explorecowichan. Not only do we have beautiful spaces outside but our community centre has been getting some upgrades in preparation for its 25th anniversary. Stop by and check out the improvements and mark your calendar for the unveiling of the NEW Boulder-ing Wall at the Think Shawnigan Gathering.

Share it!

Back by popular demand - The Gathering - showcases all

the amazing things that make us a community under one roof on September 21st from 9am-4pm. This day also marks the Official Grand opening of the SLCC Boulder-ing Wall to commemorate the Community Centre's 25th Anniversary. Sample and experience all the Community has to offer from its businesses, clubs, associations, artisans, craftsmen and home-based businesses.

If you are interested in having a table to promote your business, service, group or association, please contact

ThinkShawnigan@gmail.com to secure your spot. There is no charge to have a table and admission is Free!

Protect it!

At the last Director's meeting, Firesmart strategies were presented by Lieutenant Malcome and Chief Shields from the SL Fire Department. There was a lot of valuable information on protecting your home and property from forest fires and the presentation was well received. My top two take-aways were to check the fire-rating of your roofing material and to clean

up all the needles, dry vegetation and debris from your roof, gutters and a 10m perimeter around your home. For more information go to firesmartbc.ca The fire department also requests that your street number be easily visible from the road (especially at night!). The blue/white reflective sign is the most effective and can be ordered locally from Signology.

Have a safe and fun summer Shawnigan Lake!

I look forward to connecting: Sierra.Acton@cwrd.bc.ca (250) 715-6763 call/textilovesshawnigan.com

O.U.R. Ecovillage

Blake Wilson
Ecovillage

At the foot of Baldy Mountain sits O.U.R. Ecovillage, an extraordinary 25-acre property near Shawnigan Lake, where we share a vision of creating a model demonstration sustainable village community rooted in social, ecological, and economic wellbeing. There are daily (hourly really) tasks on the nine acres we cultivate for food production. This area includes greenhouses, gardens, food forests, animal areas and grazing space. Included in this conception we work within the ideals of permaculture. And we do a lot of natural building; more on that later.

Sustainable Living, Sustainable Learning (SL²) is a pilot program, consisting of a 7-person team, that is creating innovative projects with local schools, such as, cob pizza ovens, stationary bikes that make smoothies, sustainable food forests, and digital storytelling. Together, with O.U.R. Ecovillage, we are working in the Shawnigan Lake area at schools with an aim to develop community resources for inquiry-based learning that will work in tandem with the new BC school curriculum.

As the snow melted and students ventured outside again, the SL² Team began a cob pizza oven project at Discovery Elementary School, Mill Bay Nature School and Frances Kelsey Secondary School. Cob is a method of natural building that has been around for thousands of years, and many structures are still in use today, that were built 500 years ago. The material itself is a mixture of clay, sand, straw and water, and the students had a great time jumping in and getting muddy. Their creativity was electrical as design ideas came from all directions and grades. Come take a peek if you are able - the ovens are a real sight to behold.

As well, when the winter thawed, and the Garden Team raced to put hands to the soil, the SL² Team, with the tremendous help of O.U.R. Ecovillagers (who conducted most of the experiences), began organizing School Tours of this wonderful property. Some were for a single day, while others expanded to 10 days.

These programs are designed for learners of all ages with the goal of strengthening learning

around sustainability with an integrated systems approach. We aim to demonstrate the integrated relationships between the provision of food, fibre and energy for human needs in an environmentally sustainable way. Students also have the opportunity to experience cob construction, animal husbandry, gardening and harvesting, cooking, as well as understanding the principles behind this unique and worldwide approach to the global challenge of climate change.

We welcome you to learn about our programs (www.ourecoovillage.org). Beginning on June 28th and running to July 14th is the Permaculture Design Certificate Course. Later in the year is the West Coast Communities Conference (September 13th - September 15th), which offers an intentional experience of community. Whether you are interested in joining or starting one, or are new to intentional communities, this conference will have something for you.

Essentially, we want to demonstrate how grateful we are to be a part of the broader community, and we work diligently to improve the land and society we all share.

Cobble Hill Sunday Market
Sundays 10-2 Cobble Hill
June 2 - September 15 Community Hall
cobblehillsundaymarket@gmail.com

... think ... ?
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Shawnigan Weather June 2019
Stats courtesy of Uvic Weather Network - Reported by Grant Treloar

	June Normal	Cigarmaker's Bay		Discovery School		Museum		Elford Road	
		2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018
Average High	20.2	23.3	21.5	20.9	21.2	22.1	21.2	22.0	20.7
Average Low	10.0	10.4	10.0	10.6	11.2	11.6	11.2	10.6	11.3
Extreme High	35.6	32.7	34.5	30.5	33.9	31.4	33.9	30.5	32.9
Extreme Low	0.0	6.0	5.4	7.1	6.0	8.1	6.0	6.5	7.4
Precipitation	40.0	32.8	27.8	20.3	19.6	18.3	19.6	23.9	21.6
Days w precip	11	6	12	4	8	4	8	7	7
Year Precip	631.7	468.9	594.9	419.0	569.9	389.5	569.9	455.3	528.2

Rank since 1914: 17th warmest, 38th driest
Lake Temperature: June 2nd: 20° June 9th: 18° June 16th: 20° June 23rd: 20° June 30th: 20°
Lake Level Change: June 2nd: -4cm June 9th: -3cm June 16th: -3cm June 23rd: -3cm June 30th: -3cm
Surface Elevation: 116.36m 116.33m 116.31m 116.28m 116.2

June's warmest day was the 27th. The coolest day was on the 9th. Wettest day was the 27th. Although the precipitation for the month was near average, there was only a few days of rain. Precipitation continues to run well below average for the annual total.

Vintage Issues

Thomas Lupton,
Shawnigan Residents Association
(SRA)

One of the great television joys I've experienced over the past several years has been the Netflix series 'Stranger Things'. Set in the 1980's, it tells the story of a group of kids who find themselves embroiled in a 'Goonies-esque' adventure armed only with their wits, a Swiss Army knife, their trusty BMX bikes, and a friend with supernatural powers. This has struck a chord with many people from the Gen-X generation because it reminds us of our childhood (minus the supernatural powers), and the endless possibilities and mystery that were so clearly there, just waiting for some kids like us to take it on.

Those days are long gone. With the omnipresence of smart phones and Wikipedia, there are few mysteries left in the world, and exploration happens on the internet, not in the forests like it used to. Yet for those of us who had a childhood like that, the opening of the vintage store in Shawnigan Village, and shows like Stranger Things, have brought us back to a simpler time, and for the young people of the community, they can marvel over

how things were in the dark ages before PS4s. Spoiler alert: it was glorious!

More than a walk down memory lane, the new vintage store in the village also speaks to the health of our community. Doug Griffiths wrote in '13 Ways to Kill Your Community' that not having a business friendly community is a sure sign of problems. In the past several years, the 'Steeple's' building has gone through at least three iterations, so it is gratifying to see such a neat new shop opening up. I wonder how we can help foster a culture of competitiveness that allows businesses to thrive in our community. No doubt the plans for our village redevelopment have considered this necessity.

It also makes me think about the nature of change in our community, and the opportunities and threats that come with it. Those of us with fond memories of rotary phones and VHS recorders will be sorely disappointed by the news that change is coming, has come, and will continue to come. The Shawnigan Lake of fifty years ago is gone and it is never coming back. So the question we need to ask ourselves is how are we going to shape the future of Shawnigan Lake to protect what we love about it, but also

allow for the kind of change that we welcome while at the same time resisting the change we do not? Certainly a very important question with no simple answers, but there can be a strong argument that incorporating would give us greater self-determination and power to protect this gem in the Cowichan Valley; critically we need to find out all of the facts before we go down that road. Of all the topics in the community that gets 'discussed' on social media, none seems to carry with it the passion of the incorporation debate, whether for or against the idea. We need to find out whether or not this is a plan that could bear fruit for our community.

It's the kind of mission that is calling out for a group of people, armed with their old-school BMX bikes, silver hair, and Swiss Army knives to take on. With any luck, this groups' theme music will be heavy on the synthesizers, they'll have pastel coloured uniforms, and all problems will be solved in a neat 30 minute slot complete with a laugh-track. I miss the 80's.
If you would like to stay informed, please consider joining the Shawnigan Residents Association www.theSRA.ca and be part of the conversation.



Malahat Legion

G. J. Solley
Malahat Legion

Well, as usual June was a very busy month. With the Wednesday Lunches; Meat Draws every Saturday; Zone Euchre Tournament on the 8th; Fishing Derby on the 15th; Steak Dinner on the 21st, Double Meat Draw, and Eternal Legends and Music Bingo and Draws on the 22nd; the CV Suicide Awareness Motorcycle Ride on the 23rd; and our

Special Veterans, the First Responders and Acacia Lunch on the 27th. We finished up with the July 1st Pancake Breakfast put on by the Lions' Club and the Malahat Legion. We could not have done this without all the volunteers.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped make all this possible.

Malahat Legion Branch #134, is accepting resumes for bartenders. Please

submit only by EMAIL: rc1134@shaw.ca or by POST: 1625 Shawnigan Lake Mill Bay Rd. Shawnigan Lake, BC V0R 2W2

Please note that our kitchen will be closed July 20th for renovations. The Legion will still be open regular hours and the meat draws will continue right through the summer. We will be posting information for the Galley Grand Re-opening once it is up and running again.



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shawniganfire@shaw.ca

Department members attended
24 incidents in JUNE



- ★ Saturday, Jun 1 – MVI on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Sunday, Jun 2 – Hydro Lines on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, Jun 3 – Burning Complaint on Colman Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Jun 4 - 1st Respond off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Thursday, Jun 6 – Structure Fire on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Friday, Jun 7 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd
- ★ Sunday, Jun 9 – Hydro Lines on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, Jun 10 – Alarms Activated on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Monday, Jun 10 - 1st Responder off S Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Thursday, Jun 13 – MVI on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Friday, Jun 14 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, Jun 15 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, Jun 15 – Burning Complaint on Burnham Rd
- ★ Monday, Jun 17 – Lift Assist off Renfrew Rd
- ★ Wednesday, Jun 19 – Alarms Activated on Renfrew Rd
- ★ Thursday, Jun 20 – Burning Complaint on W Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Saturday, Jun 22 – Lift Assist off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Sunday, Jun 23 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Sunday, Jun 23 - 1st Responder off Fern Ridge Dr
- ★ Monday, Jun 24 - 1st Responder off Sherburn Rd
- ★ Tuesday, Jun 25 – MVI on Shawnigan Lake Rd
- ★ Thursday, Jun 27 – Hydro Lines on Cameron-Taggart Rd
- ★ Friday, Jun 28 – MVI on Cameron-Taggart Rd
- ★ Saturday, Jun 29 - 1st Responder off Shawnigan-Mill Bay Rd

COMMUNITY GROUPS

- ★ **Area B Director's meetings with Sierra Acton**
Office hours by appointment. Email sacton@cvrd.bc.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Advisory Planning Commission(APC)** Meetings TBA
Contact: Bruce at jenniebruce1@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Parks and Recreation Commission**
Meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Thursday of the month.
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Centre Commission**
Meetings TBA. Held at the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre
- ★ **Shawnigan Improvement District**
2nd Monday of each month 7 pm at #1 Fire Hall
- ★ **Shawnigan Residents Association (SRA)**
For info: check www.thesra.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Community Association (SLCA)**
Contact: bburr@shaw.ca
- ★ **Shawnigan Basin Society**
Watershed office: Unit 4-1760 Shawnigan Mill Bay Road. Office hours: Tues., Thurs., Sat. 10-4 Contact: info@shawniganbasinsociety.org
- ★ **Young Seniors Action Group (YSAGS)**
Contact: blog.ysag.ca - email: ysagssl@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Lake Museum**
Open Wednesday to Sunday - 10:30-4. Contact: shawniganlakemuseum@shaw.ca
www.shawniganlakemuseum.com
- ★ **South Cowichan Community Policing (SCCP)**
Contact: 250-929-7222 - www.southcowichancommunitypolicing.ca
- ★ **Royal Canadian Legion Malahat District Branch 134**
Saturday Meat Draw 3:00-5:00pm. Contact: Gloria_gsolley@shaw.ca
- ★ **South Cowichan Healthcare Aux.** every second Tuesday from 1 -2pm. at Mill Bay Community League Hall. southcowichanhealthcareaux@gmail.com
- ★ **Shawnigan Quilters** - Wed. 9-2 at Lion's Hall (Sylvania School)

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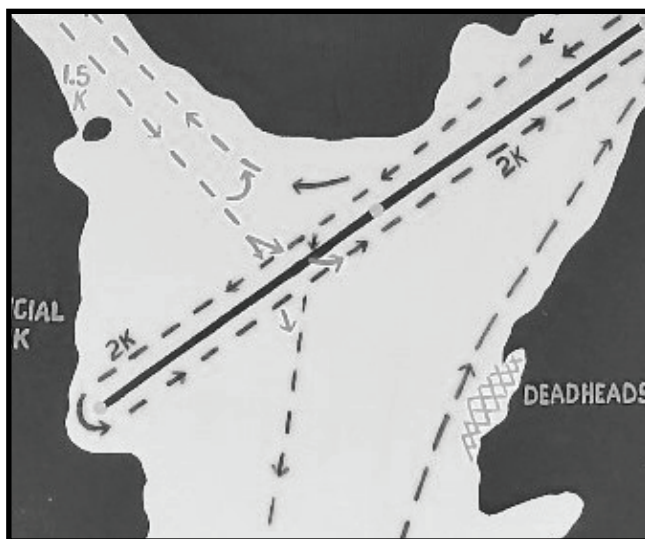
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EMPLOYMENT

AUTOMOTIVE

LOST - FOUND

What Is It? Where Is It? Why Is IT?

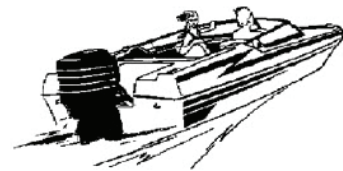


One lucky respondent with the correct answer will be randomly selected to win two Specialty Coffees at Shawnigan House.
Reply to: editor@shawniganfocus.ca

CONGRATULATIONS

The winner for June is Caryn Taylor who recognized the No. 1 sign for the main Fire Station on Shawnigan Lake-Mill Bay Rd. Our Volunteer Fire Department was formed in the early 1950s as a successor to the Shawnigan Lake Fire Brigade which grew out of the firefighting division of the Second World War Air Raid Patrol of 1939-1945. Thanks for all you do!

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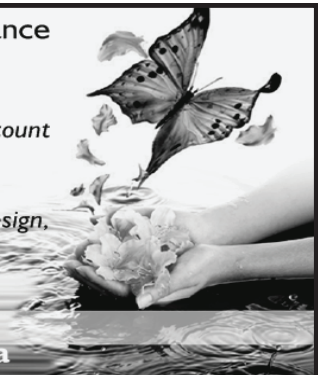
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Shawnigan Focus

An open invitation to the community

Dave Munday
President, Shawnigan Basin Society

The Shawnigan Basin Society has always been a grassroots environmental organization with a long-term science-based vision for the health and well being of our community. Our well mapped out stewardship plan covers the next 50 years in solution-based focus to the many challenges facing our community.

As with most green societies we have undergone a number of transformations over the years. We recognize that we are stronger when we work together as a community and have all stakeholders at the table to find solutions to current and future challenges. Our proposal moving forward, begins with an invitation. An invitation to work together recognizing that while we may have differing opinions and approaches, there is validity and space for every voice.

To date, we want to acknowledge and applaud the work that has already been accomplished by the many organizations and individuals in our community whether it has been raising awareness about lake health, sustainable logging practices, scientific trials, the innovations and campaigns to protect our drinking water from invasive species, overdevelopment and, of course, the astounding work that the community has undertaken to stop the contaminated soil dump. Although, as we know, this issue is still not resolved.

The Shawnigan Basin Society, as an environmental stewardship society, is moving forward with our long term goals of addressing the challenges our community faces, however our invitation is that we work together in an inclusive

manner to actualize all our initiatives as we have the same end goal to protect and preserve our lake life, beautiful community and protect our clean drinking water.

We remain committed to our three core principles:

Preservation: Working together with all stakeholders in the community to ensure we have the ability to maintain our way of life and the beautiful natural surroundings in which we live

Conservation: Climate change is now an undeniable fact and we are going to need all hands-on deck to mitigate the changes that are coming. We have a well laid-out plan rooted in scientific data on how we will address the changing conditions in our immediate environment. We are always willing and available to discuss, present and talk with community stakeholders about our plan and how we will be moving forward.

Recreation: An integral part of our beautiful lake life that can be maintained with a focus on ensuring we have clean drinking water for current and future generations and our watershed health remains protected.

We are inviting all interested stakeholders to accept our offer to move forward and work together. When we work together as a community, we are so much stronger and can literally (and metaphorically) 'move' mountains as this community has already demonstrated.

The SBS board meets the first Tuesday of every month & holds Lake Health information events on the third Tuesday of every month. The next SBS board meeting is July 2nd @7pm & the next Milfoil Education event is July 16th @ 7pm.

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milfoil
at your
dock?

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informed...
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theSRA.ca

Frequently asked questions.

When was milfoil first noticed as being in Shawnigan Lake?

In the late 1970's.

Why are we seeing milfoil in the lake now even though it's been here for decades?

It may be the result of human introduced nutrients from erosion (forestry, soil dumping, etc.), leaking septic infrastructure, livestock and the application of fertilizer to ornamental planting (e.g. grass, flowers, shrubbery etc.), agricultural fields or pastures.

Can we get rid of milfoil forever?

No, but there are ways that we can safely manage it without tipping the ecological balance of Shawnigan Lake.

What can we do to manage and control the spread of milfoil at your waterfront?

1. Be informed.
2. Physical removal. Follow proper removal procedures collecting all fragmented parts. **Fragmented parts will propagate!**
3. Don't operate boats in shallow water.

What do I need to know to remove milfoil?

It is important to remove as much of the root as possible. This is only possible by diving the site. **Raking the milfoil from a dock will only break the milfoil and cause it to spread.** It's advised to work with professional divers to remove the milfoil.

How does milfoil spread?

When milfoil is in bloom it becomes fragile and the tips easily break. These fragments, if not captured and removed, will propagate in other parts of the lake.

Why can milfoil only be pulled after June 15?

To protect the fish habitat.

How are residents removing milfoil?

Many are hiring the services of Storm Coast Dive Services to professionally harvest, collect all fragments and properly dispose of the milfoil away from the lake.

Do I have to use professional divers?

No. You can remove milfoil yourself.

How do I pull the milfoil myself?

It's recommended that you watch the video at www.theSRA.ca -> about -> milfoil to learn what is involved. Removal requires you to dive within the affected area, get your hands underneath the root of the plant and bring the milfoil to the surface.

Is there a special tool that I can use to remove the milfoil?

No. Hand-pulling only.

My neighbours are using other methods. Why can't I do what they are doing to remove the milfoil?

Any method to remove milfoil requires a permit. The only approved method at this time is hand-pulling.

How can I get a permit?

Removal of milfoil requires a permit. The SRA have been given permission from the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO) and Rural Development to pull milfoil. This permission extends to SRA members for pulling of milfoil only.

Why do we have to hand-pull milfoil?

Think of milfoil like the invasive broom weed. If you pull milfoil ineffectively it will spread. Like broom, milfoil will spread to neighbouring properties if all the fragments are not removed from the lake during the hand-pulling process. If everyone removed milfoil with care ensuring all fragments are collected, as a community, we could make headway towards minimizing the impact of milfoil in the lake.

Where can I get copies of the tick, tock flyer along with the map of Shawnigan Lake?

Copies can be found at the Museum, Shawnigan Lake Gas Station, West Coast Vintage, Shawnigan Lake Coffee House, Victoria Ski Club and at the Kinsol Cafe or by contacting the SRA.

Why is it important to have a SRA membership?

Together, we draw strength as a community with a strong voice that allows us to make our issues known to governments, public and private bodies which impacts our ability as a community to influence decisions that effect Shawnigan Lake.

How can I become a SRA member?

The SRA has a new membership system that allows you to manage your membership on-line and update your information. The new site will easily navigate you through your membership sign-up. Please join.

What can I do to support the SRA?

Collectively, we can make a difference.



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